Workers of the World, Unite !

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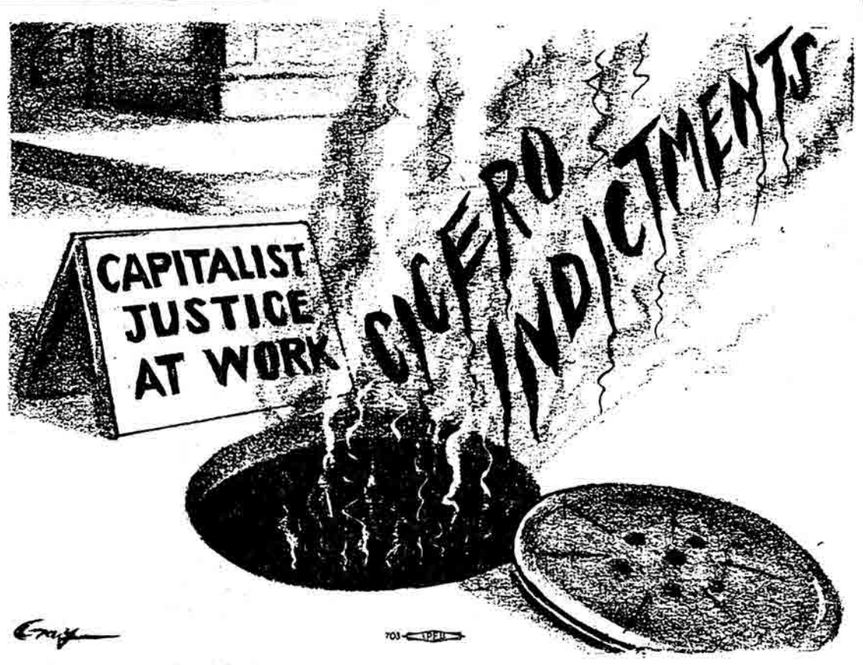
United Action Is Urgent Need In Fight On Cicero Frameups



Why Attlee Has Issued Call for New Elections

By Paul G. Stevens

In what appeared in the U.S. press as a surprise move, Prime Minister Clement Attlee announced last Wednesday that general elections would be held in Great Britain on Oct. 25. In actual fact, a fall election was generally expected on the other side of the Atlantic. While an election was more or less taken for granted the exact date was not known. Choosing the election date is the prerogative (by constitutional tradition) of the Prime Minister and is kept secret for the purpose of giving the party in power the advantage in mapping campaign strategy.

Why was an election expected this fall? According to British law, elections for Parliament must be held every five years. The Labor majority elected in February 1950 could have remained in power until 1955, even though Winston Churchill and the Tories clamored that the Labor government was not representative of the will of the people. They had the majority, slim as their margin was. That margin had proved sufficient to put through the bill nationalizing the steel industry last year against the bitter opposition of the capitalist class. The reason for Attlee's expected dissolution of Parliament and call for immediate elections lies in the mounting social crisis in Great Britain, and in the world political situation of which it is a part.

The Labor Party won by a landslide in 1945 when the masses, tired of war and of capitalist rule, overwhelmingly turned to socialism for a solution and swept Churchill's conservatives out of the seats of government. What the leadership of the Labor Party gave the working people in the course of the next five years was not socialism, to be sure, but a series of reform and nationalization measures which appeared to lay the groundwork for socialism.

The reformist policies of the Labor leadership could not long maintain on its side the large sections of the middle class which had been swept along in the landslide of 1945. These layers could see only the end result: continued "austerity" of the same type as during the war, which meant a permanent reduction in their living standards; the revival of the capitalist class, of its profits, of its political party; on the other hand, slight gains for the workers with whom they shared the general austerity. In short, a picture of irresolution rather than of a steady march toward the new social system they looked for.

As a consequence, the elections of February 1950 witnessed a large scale defection of the middle class layers who voted for the Conservative Party. Only a more powerful turnout than ever of the British workers, sensing in a Tory comeback a threat to their gains and to their future, saved the Labor government, giving it a slight edge in the House of Commons.

The sharpening of the world political situation, the warming

(Continued on Page 2)

M. Weiss Explains Socialist Program Over Ohio Radio

CLEVELAND, Sept. 23 — Preceding one of the most successful meetings of her current national speaking tour, Myra Tanner Weiss was interviewed in a public service broadcast on radio station WSRS here yesterday by Jean Simon, local correspondent of The Militant.

Mrs. Weiss criticized the policies of both the Stalinist and Trumanite administrations in Asia, and gave her views on what socialism would mean in America. She also announced that she would discuss in greater detail the lessons of the Korean War and the outlook for America, at a public meeting at the Socialist Workers Party headquarters, 10609 Superior Ave., that evening.

The evening meeting, the first in the new Cleveland SWP branch headquarters, was attended by a number of union militants new to socialist ideas and interested in learning more. The audience contributed generously in a collection to further the educational and other activities of the Socialist Workers Party, and many workers remained for refreshments and informal discussion for several hours after the adjournment of the meeting.

A considerable number of books and pamphlets was purchased, and a number of persons asked to be notified when a scheduled series of lectures on "The Truth About the First American Revolution, 1776," would begin.

Mrs. Weiss concluded her talk with an explanation of the differences between the demagogic phrase-mongering of the Truman administration about the "revolutionary principles of American democracy" — which actually aims at maintaining the status quo — and the truly revolutionary program of the Socialist Workers Party for a fundamental change from a class-divided society of war and insecurity to a classless socialist society of peace security, and opportunity for all.

AFL Leadership Shows Its Political Bankruptcy

By Joseph Andrews

Sept. 26 — The AFL's 70th convention now drawing to a close in San Francisco, has raised all the important issues facing American labor — but has not come up with a single answer that fits the needs of the workers.

In a political resolution setting forth the aims of Labor's League for Political Education, the convention listed 19 Senators who must be defeated in 1952. These include five Southern Democrats and 14 Republicans who, the AFL says, were responsible for the Taft-Hartley Law. Why all the Senators and Congressmen who voted for Taft-Hartley are not included on the list was not explained.

In this political "plan," there is not a word said about how the labor movement is to defeat these Senators, or who the workers should put in their places.

THE "NEW POLICY"

This proposal is in line with the AFL's "new policy" following its withdrawal from the United Labor Policy Committee. The AFL hierarchy complain that the CIO was too closely tied to the Democratic Party machine. But instead of freeing themselves from these ties in order to pursue an independent political course, the AFL leadership has reaffirmed the old Gompers formula of rewarding labor's "friends" and punishing enemies.

There is nothing in this program that offers the slightest chance of transforming the Big Business-controlled Congress.

Joseph D. Keenan, retiring head of the LLPE, said, "If we do our job right in 1952, our votes might even put in a liberal majority. However, I'm not bragging ahead of time." Such caution is well-advised. The program can only end in failure.

The convention also endorsed the outlook of the Executive Council on the selection of presidential candidates for 1952, by stating it would not "interfere" in the choice of candidates by Republicans or Democrats. After both parties have chosen candidates, the AFL will decide which to support.

The convention adopted a position on foreign affairs which gives unqualified support to every reactionary policy of the U.S. State Department. Here is a partial list of the AFL foreign policy program:

1. 100% endorsement of the Korean war, including the conduct of the truce negotiations, and of the U.S. demand that the place of the parleys be moved from Kaesong.

2. Endorses aid to Chiang for "organic unity."

"Functional unity," the convention resolution stated, "is no Kai-shek and the strengthening of his forces on Formosa.

3. Endorses the Atlantic military alliance, which includes deals with Franco Spain and totalitarian Greece.

In short, the AFL leaders back all the U.S. imperialist plans for World War III, and its intervention against the colonial peoples fighting for their independence.

The question of unity between the AFL and CIO occupied a large part of the time of the convention. The AFL leadership, endorsed by the convention, repudiated the CIO's position for "functional unity" — that is, for united front actions on specific issues — in favor of a demand substitute (for organic unity) and cannot be accepted by the AFL."

Behind this refusal to continue the joint efforts of CIO and AFL in a set-up like the United Labor Policy Committee, is a threat to take advantage of the present numerical superiority of the AFL to raid the CIO.

It was recently announced that Harry Lundberg, President of the Seafarers International Union, AFL, and Dave Beck are planning a joint offensive against CIO unions on the West Coast.

Thus, under cover of a demand for organic unity, the AFL threatens to further aggravate the division in labor's ranks by large-scale raiding.

INNOCENT ARE INDICTED, GUILTY GO SCOT-FREE

Try to imagine this: A striker is peacefully picketing his plant. A gang of strikebreakers come out, armed with clubs and blackjacks, and start to beat him up. A cop standing by turns his head the other way until they have finished their dirty work. Then he drags the striker off to jail on charges of "inciting to riot."

That is what the Cicero case is like. The police looked the other way while a mob, incited by racists, ran wild for several days and gutted the apartment rented by Harvey E. Clark Jr., Negro bus driver. Clark's attorney, George Leighton of the NAACP, then went to court and filed suit for $200,000 damages and for a contempt citation against the Cicero police who had violated an injunction ordering them to protect Clark and his property.

A grand jury was called in Cook County to investigate the anti-Negro riot, which had aroused world-wide protest and condemnation. 117 persons had been arrested at the scene of the outrage, many of them in the act of burning and destroying parts of the building.

HOODLUMS EXONERATED

But the grand jury did not take any action against any of the 117. It also refused to take any action against the white supremacist, Joseph Beauharnais, leader of the White Circle League, who had openly incited the mob and distributed anti-Negro literature.

Instead, the grand jury, which was lily-white in composition, handed down indictments against five people, all of whom were opposed to the riot and most of whom were not even present when it took place. They were:

NAACP attorney Leighton; Mrs. Camille DeRose, former owner of the property Clark had tried to move into; George C. Adams, her former attorney; Charles Edwards, rental agent of the property; and Norman Silverman, who allegedly distributed a Communist Party leaflet entitled "End Mob Rule in Cicero" several weeks after the riot.

The indictments against the five charged "conspiracy to injure property. . . by causing a depreciation in the real estate market price by renting to Negroes," conspiracy to damage property, and conspiracy to incite a riot.

HEAVY PENALTIES

If convicted, they could be sentenced to one to five years in prison and fined up to $5,000.

In an attempt to pretend impartiality, the grand jury also indicted Police Chief Erwin Konovsky, who had assaulted Clark before the riot and ordered him to get out of town, and who had not enforced the injunction to protect Clark against violence.

The phony nature of this "impartiality" was shown by the fact that the indictment against Konovsky, charging misconduct in public office, entails nothing stronger than possible fine and possible loss of his job.

That is capitalist justice, Cook County style: Jail for people who believe that a Negro has a right to live in a home he rented, a slap on the wrist for the police official who acted in disregard of that right, and complete immunity for the fascistic elements who instigated the anti-Negro riot.

(See Page 4 for report from Chicago on the latest developments in the case.)

Basic Rights Of the People Are at Stake

The Cicero indictments are a challenge to the labor movement, the Negro people and every American interested in preventing frameups and protesting injustice.

As Walter White of the NAACP has pointed out, if a lawyer can be indicted in Illinois for going into court to defend the rights of a Negro victim of mob violence, there is nothing to stop the spread of such practices to the South and other parts of the country.

If the capitalist class can get away with such a frameup of Negroes, it will be emboldened to attempt the same methods to intimidate the labor unions, opponents of war, inflation and the witch-hunt, and anyone else who fights the evils of capitalism.

That is why the challenge must be accepted. It's fight or run for labor, the Negro people and their allies. And running in this case will not remove the sword that is poised over them, ready to cut their democratic rights to shreds.

ASIA'S INTEREST

The Cicero case is explosive, not only because it directly concerns the liberties of the people of Cook County, Illinois, and the U.S. as a whole, but also because it is regarded as a test of Washington's "democratic" pretenses by millions of people in Asia, Africa and Europe. The N. Y. Times buried the story of the grand jury indictments in a few paragraphs on Page 22, without any indication that the five who were indicted for "conspiracy" were opponents rather than instigators of the riot. But in the Far East the story must have received entirely different treatment.

Reports of the riot were given front page headlines in Asia last July. Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, then in Singapore on his recent Far East junket, felt it necessary to publicly condemn the Asian newspapers for featuring the riot story so prominently. He assured the peoples of Asia that this was unwarranted because "the incident" was "both vigorously suppressed and prosecuted by public authorities."

This lie has now been exposed. The many millions who were indignant about the riot will not be silent about the whitewashing of the guilty and the persecution of the innocent. Their voices will be heard and felt in America as well as Asia.

FIGHT CAN BE WON

Some frameups are hard to fight because the facts relating to them are unknown or in doubt. But it is not like that with the Cicero case. The facts are so well known, the nauseating stench of the frameup is so strong, that it will not be difficult to arouse a tremendous storm of protest.

This means that the Cicero frame-ups can be smashed if the labor, Negro and liberal movements apply themselves vigorously to the job that has to be done.

The ruling class must be shown that the American people will not tolerate this frameup and that they will fight it energetically until the day that the victims of the grand jury have been exonerated and the instigators of the riot punished.

The grand jury showed that it does not pay to rely on the capitalist authorities to assure that justice is done. The people have to rely on themselves, on mass meetings, picket lines, demonstrations of independent strength, mass action. Nothing less will do the job. A serious campaign of united action will do it well.

What They Said About Cicero

Walter White, NAACP executive secretary: The indictment is "one of the gravest threats to the Negro's fight for equal justice which has yet developed. If George Leighton can be indicted in Illinois for resorting to the courts to protect the civil rights of Harvey Clark or any other Negro, it is not difficult to imagine what will happen to lawyers, Negro or white, in the South or other parts of the country, when they appeal to the courts for redress of racial injustices. The action of the Cook County grand jury is intimidation of the most vicious sort."

Michael Mann, regional CIO director: "Legally fantastic and morally outrageous."

Sidney Williams, Chicago Urban League executive secretary: "An atrocity against democracy."

Chicago Sun Times: "The grand jury suffered from the same frame of mind that possessed the rioters. . . . In failing to act against any of the rioters, the grand jury threw another rock into the Clark flat. It condoned mob rule and issued an open invitation to any would-be rioters in Cook County to emulate the Cicero tactics if and when their community faces a similar situation."

President Truman: " — "

SWP COUNCIL CANDIDATE IN N.Y. RADIO INTERVIEW

By Harry Ring
(Campaign Manager)

NEW YORK, Sept. 26 — Michael Bartell, Socialist Workers candidate for President of the N. Y. City Council, had his first interview today, and took the occasion to present the socialist answer to the problem of crime and corruption in the city government. This has become a sizzling issue in this campaign, as a result of the overpowering stench generated by the recent exposures of the tie-up of the underworld with the police and the entire city administration.

Rudolph Halley, who is the candidate of Dubinsky's Liberal Party although proclaiming his loyalty to the Democratic Party, has seized on the publicity he got as chief counsel for the Kefauver committee (for the usual fat fee, of course) as a golden opportunity to ride into office on a "clean government" campaign. After all, if O'Dwyer, (one of the central figures in the whole scandal) and Dewey, (who, for some mysterious reason sprung Lucky Luciano), could achieve fame and fortune by this kind of fake gang-busting crusade, why not Halley?

In answer to the question of the interviewer as to how the Socialist Workers Party would tackle this problem, Bartell pointed out that "clean government" demagogues come and go — usually up the ladder of successful political careers for themselves — but crime and corruption remain, and will continue as long as the city is controlled by capitalist politicians, either of the Republican or Democratic variety, including so-called "independents."

Bartell contended that the only way to clean up City Hall is by the election of a labor administration that would sweep out all the grafting, thieving politicians and their appointees, fire the whole crooked labor-baiting, Negro-hating command of the police force, and turn over the administration of city affairs and law enforcement to elected representatives of the labor unions and mass organizations of the Negro and Puerto Rican people.

The SWP candidate pointed out in addition that the acceptance by the police of protection money from the bookies was far from being the most dastardly crime perpetrated by the New York cops. He stated that in his opinion the brutal assaults, the crippling and murder of innocent, unarmed people, especially in the Negro and Puerto Rican districts, by sadistic cops is a far more serious crime, for which not a single cop has ever been punished and a crime about which Halley has not a single word to say.

WOULD CURB COPS

A labor administration, Bartell explained, would fire every cop who ever laid a hand on a striker or an innocent Negro or Puerto Rican citizen, and transform the police department from an agency which employs terror against striking workers and members of racial minorities, into a power which protects the people against strikebreakers, racehaters and criminals.

Is Redbaiting Losing Its Effectiveness?

By George Breitman

Redbaiting, although there is no letup in its use by the witch-hunters, appears to be losing some of its effectiveness. Whether or not this is the beginning of a definite reversal of previous political trends, when almost any crime against civil liberties has been condoned in the name of "anti-communism," recent events point to the rise of new views and new moods on this question among important sections of the population.

The most significant of these was the Sept. 14 NLRB election at the huge General Electric plant in Schenectady, N. Y., where over 16,000 out of the plant's 19,000 employees went to the polls and where redbaiting received a spectacular and decisive rebuff.

When the CIO expelled the Stalinist-dominated United Electrical Workers two years ago and set up a rival union in this industry, the new organization had the confidence of a majority of the unionized electrical workers, who wanted to remain within the mainstream of the labor movement and who expected that the new IUE-CIO would make good on its promise to win better conditions than the UE had done.

MAIN KEYNOTE

But after the IUE-CIO had brought a majority of the members within its fold, it became clear that the new leadership is essentially the same as the Stalinists so far as ability to secure improved wage and working conditions is concerned. This halted the pro-IUE pattern; the answer of the Carey leadership of the IUE was greater and greater reliance on pure and simple redbaiting as the chief instrument for replacing the UE in the important shops it still represented.

Redbaiting was the main keynote of the IUE campaign at the Schenectady plant. A lot of money and a lot of organizers were thrown into this campaign, which Carey and the other CIO leaders were exultantly positive they would win. They got an important assist from the government on the eve of the election in the form of indictments of UE leaders and threats of investigations by the House Un-American Committee.

But it didn't work. The IUE was beaten, and beaten badly — by a vote of 11,542 for UE to 4,852 for IUE. The GE workers at Schenectady evidently have had their fill of witch-hunting smears; at any rate, they do not see any reason to join a union merely because it waves the flag and promises to deliver them from the grip of Stalin.

What accounts for this? For one thing, the repeated attacks on the State Department as "communist-dominated" have made many people more hesitant to credit such charges in general. When Acheson is denounced as a communist on grounds that are patently false and for reasons that are plainly reactionary, a considerable section of the population gets an education in the real purpose of redbaiting. While the specter of communism has been inflated in the press and on the air, for many (if not most) workers their unions are still predominantly bread-and-butter, and not political, institutions.

OTHER SIGNS

Other signs indicating that redbaiting may already have reached the peak of its effectiveness are:

The public recognition by some anti-Stalinist union leaders (notably national CIO vice-president Frank Rosenblum) that the witch-hunt is a threat to the labor movement; the greater boldness with which certain U.S. Senators (Benton, Lehman, etc.) are objecting to the practices of McCarthy and McCarran (until recently, few Senators felt it was safe to even mention them); and even the increasing frequency with which Truman tries to dissociate himself from some of the worst excesses of the witch-hunt he started (which may mean that Truman, who is a shrewd politician, senses a growing rejection of the whole business among the American people).

These are still only straws in the wind; they don't mean the end of the witch-hunt, which its directors and beneficiaries intend to continue until they meet widespread and active resistance. But while caution is called for in appraising their exact significance and weight, these developments can only have a heartening and encouraging effect on the forces opposing the witch-hunt. For they foreshadow the coming mass struggle to prevent the totalitarianization of the United States.

Notebook of an Agitator

A PETITION FOR HARRY GROSS

You have to be careful what you sign these days; it can get you into all kinds of trouble, and first thing you know you are pegged as subversive and put on the blacklist. But if they come around to me with a petition for the unconditional pardon of Harry Gross, the fall guy in the Brooklyn cops and bookies scandal, I'll make it a matter of principle and sign it. And if the petition adds another point calling for Judge Leibowitz to be put in jail in place of Gross, I'll sign it twice.

I would sign the first part of the petition — for the pardon of Gross — not because I am a sentimental admirer or sympathizer of crooks, big or little. I don't see anything glamorous or admirable about racketeers; and I care still less for the cops who are in cahoots with them and without whom they could not operate. Their incentive is money and material advantages for themselves at the expense of others. That is not my idea of a hero; and ordinarily I wouldn't go out of my way to do them any favors, not even so much as signing my name to a petition. But I do believe in a sense of proportion. And I don't care for hypocritical talk about justice when the whole thing is lopsided and discriminatory, and the punishment is dealt out to minor offenders while the big criminals come out unscathed.

Gross, by all accounts, is a crook. But he isn't the biggest or the worst crook in the town or the country. Compared to others who have not been punished or indicted, he is a piker. Why should he take the rap? Gross is obviously the fall guy for the whole gang of thieves, official and unofficial, including higher-ups in the O'Dwyer administration; going right up to the City Hall, to the highest officials who sat in the seats of power there. They haven't been indicted or even mentioned in this whole judicial fiasco, to say nothing of the still bigger crooks behind them who rob and bleed the people of this country. They all go scot-free while one uneducated bookie, who learned all he knows in the crap game joints and pool halls of the Brooklyn slums, where the quick dollar is regarded as the highest value, gets the business. What's fair about that?

Gross has already been sentenced to 1,500 days in jail and a fine of $10,000 for contempt of court in refusing to testify against himself and the cops and politicians who shook him down for "protection" money; and he faces another long prison sentence on his previous plea of guilty to paying off these same cops and politicians when he goes into court this Thursday. Specifically, he admitted paying out over $1,000,000 a year in graft to New York cops for protection in operating his bookie business. That is a crime under the law, no doubt; and $1,000,000 out of the pockets of suckers who tried to beat the odds weighted against them in horse races, which were probably rigged in the bargain, is a lot of money. But compared to the take of organized exploitation in this country, it is mere chicken feed. And compared to the crimes of others involved in these proceedings, including those who shout loudest about law and justice, the offense of Gross is a mere peccadillo.

The Crimes of Judge Leibowitz

Take the crimes of Judge Samuel S. Leibowitz, who presided over the trial in Kings County Court, for example. This scoundrel acted not as an impartial judge, but as a prosecutor against the helpless bookie who was unlucky enough to get caught in the toils of what they euphemistically call "the law." Leibowitz certainly made a hash of the law, and the constitution too, when it came to dealing with little Harry Gross. He held him in bail of $250,000 — just think of it! — in brutal violation of the constitutional provision which expressly prohibits the exaction of unreasonable bail. He kept him in solitary confinement for six months, which again violates the law and the constitution by inflicting punishment before trial. More — as Gross brought out on the witness stand — he knowingly sanctioned third degree methods to make Gross talk before he was tried, under threat of a heavier sentence if he stood on his rights and refused to incriminate himself. The Bill of Rights prohibits "cruel and unusual punishment" in the case of convicted criminals in the country's prisons. Leibowitz sanctioned such punishment of a man before he was even tried.

On top of all that, by his hypocritical posturing on the bench and his abusive threats to a helpless prisoner on the witness stand, this unjust judge, this modern Jeffreys, compounded his crimes. "I will chain you to the stand with handcuffs," he shouted at the bookie. "If you have to rot in jail for 100 years, you will get it." This is what is known in Brooklyn as judicial poise and impartiality.

Under his goading and threats, Gross told the story of what had been done to him: "Why don't you explain to the court that you held me as a material witness in solitary confinement in the civil prison? Why don't you explain that, heh? Why did you have me assigned to a chair in solitary the whole 24 hours with the light twitching in my eye? . . . Did you ever try to spend 23 out of 24 hours in your cell with the light on there over your cell? . . . You took 20 years off my life with the condition you had me kept in. When I asked the sheriff over in the civil prison, all they give you was, 'Orders of Honorable Judge Leibowitz.' . . . You have ruined my eyesight; no glasses, no radio, no newspaper, no visitors. You are a very honorable man." (New York Herald Tribune, Sept. 20.)

If Justice Were Done

I say that Judge Leibowitz, the author of these crimes, is worse than Gross. I say the bookie, for his comparatively piddling offenses, has already suffered too much. I am not a believer in jails as a cure for human defects, as a way of making people better. In the communist society of the future there will be no jails. But in the meantime if there must be jails; and if it is strictly understood that they are for punishment, not reform — then they ought to be inhabited by those who deserve them most. If justice were done in this case, it would mean turning the bookie loose and putting Leibowitz in jail in his place.

Of all the characters directly or indirectly involved in this whole unsavory spectacle, little Harry Gross comes out the best as a man, as a plain human being. He at least was loyal to something. That's more than can be said, on the record, for the others. As far as can be seen with the naked eye, the others were loyal to nothing; nothing important, that is. O'Dwyer, the political kingpin of all the rackets, took it on the lam to Mexico and picked up an ambassadorship enroute. The crooked cops had no motive but to keep their swag and keep their jobs so they could collect more. The District Attorney wanted to build himself up as a candidate for governor in the pattern of the notorious Dewey. Leibowitz wanted to outshine Medina, the Federal judge who had copped the glory by kangarooing the 11 Stalinist leaders. But when all the chips were down, and threats of 100 years of imprisonment were hurled at him from the bench, the little bookie took a stand for some kind of principle, even if it isn't the highest principle in the world, and they couldn't budge him from it.

"I am thinking of my family," he said. "My family, my wife and children, are more important to me than anything." There he stood and there he stands. Little in size as he is, and little and tawdry as his whole career has been, he's bigger than the others. Bigger, and better.

* * *

I had intended, in connection with this case, to pay my respects also to Rudolph Halley, the "crime busting" phoney, who is running on a white horse for president of New York City Council with "socialist" support. But space has already run out, and that will have to hold over until next time.

— J.P.C.

(Next Week: Crime and Politics)

Witch Hunt Gets Setback In Australia

The people of Australia gave a stiff blow to their government's witch-hunt on Sept. 22 when in a national referendum they voted down Prime Minister Menzies' constitutional amendment to grant the government the power to outlaw the Communist Party, confiscate its properties, bar its members from public or union office, and illegalize all organizations alleged to have "communist affiliations."

To carry the amendment, Menzies needed a majority of the national vote, and majorities in at least four of the country's six states. He got neither. The amendment was rejected by a vote of 2,108,390 to 2,012,161.

The Australian witch-hunt is much like the one in the United States. The conservative Liberal-Country party coalition in control of the government has been working furiously to destroy civil liberties under the guise of fighting communism. It had passed a Communist Party Dissolution Act giving it arbitrary powers to destroy its political opponents, but the Australian High Court ruled this unconstitutional.

LABOR OPPOSED

The Labor Party, headed by Herbert E. Evatt, while in no way sympathetic to the Stalinists, organized the opposition to the Menzies program. Evatt attacked the Dissolution Act and the proposed constitutional amendment as steps "on the road to a police state," and showed how they could be used to undermine the civil liberties of all.

The conservatives were sure that they could stampede the people into accepting the amendment, especially since the Menzies government had won re-election just last April on the same general issue. They put on a big campaign; every single daily paper in the country, with one exception, urged a "yes" vote. But the people, and especially the workers, refused to give up their own rights merely to satisfy the government's rabid "anti-communist" demands.

Australia provides a good lesson for the United States. It shows that when the labor movement gets wise to the real aim of the witch-hunt, and leads a fight against it, it can score impressive victories for civil liberties.

Friendly Handshake

A friendly handshake from President Truman welcomes his GOP rival, Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, who reported to him on his tour of Asia. The clasped hands are a fitting symbol — Truman and Dewey see eye to eye on the imperialist policy for both Europe and the Far East.

Attlee's Call For Elections

(Continued from Page 1)

up of the "cold war" has brought with it for Great Britain the huge burden of rearmament. The Labor leadership could not long keep a balance between the cost of its reforms and those of rearmament. Last April, in announcing the annual budget, the Labor Chancellor of the Exchequer, Hugh Gaitskell, made known for the first time that cuts were to be made in the outlay for social services.

These proposed cuts were in the nature of a trial balloon. Aneurin Bevan, Minister of Health, long regarded as the leader of the Left Wing in the leadership, took up the challenge. Along with two of his colleagues, he resigned from the cabinet and has since carried on an organized fight for leadership of the Labor Party. His program, formulated to meet growing rank and file pressure, can be summed up briefly. Retain the social service intact, loosen the ties with American capitalism, reduce the rearmament program within limts compatible with the retention of labor's gains and increase the inroads on capitalist profits.

Bevan's program has aroused a great mass response. At the annual conference of the Scottish Trade Unions last summer, the rank and file reversed the leadership and overwhelmingly endorsed the Bevan line. At the British Trade Union Congress early this month, the leadership could squeeze out a majority for the government policy as against Bevan only by sharp organization maneuvers. The annual conference of the Labor Party at Scarborough in October was regarded as heading for a showdown in this struggle.

The announcement of the coming elections must be viewed against this background. Officially, the Labor leadership itself has disclosed that it seeks an election because it expects sharp crises in the days ahead, particularly a fuel crisis directly resulting from rearmament problems. It does not want to face such crises, it is explained, with an uncertain majority. Its small majority has been jeopardized recently by a number of deaths which require bye-elections, whose outcome is in doubt. Consequently, it prefers to go to the electorate at a time which it considers more advantageous for itself than in the midst of a full blown crisis.

At the same time, there is no question that Attlee and Co. will also seek to take advantage of the elections in order to try and stem the advance of the Left Wing. It has already been announced that the Labor Party conference is to be cut short. This means that, rather than a debate over policy, the Scarborough conference will be converted into an election rally. The whole election atmosphere will demand unity against the Tories rather than a settling of policy from within. There are even reports that Attlee has been meeting with Bevan in order to get a common platform with him on the basis of mutual concessions.

Bevan, on the other hand, has declared he will not yield on policy. He will however, pitch into the campaign wholeheartedly for a Labor Party victory over the Tories. In this, too, Bevan is no doubt mirroring the sentiment of the rank and file. They view the elections as a struggle of class against class and consider that the first task is to prevent a return of the Tories to power.

STORM SIGNALS AHEAD

Winston Churchill's Tories, who were very cocky in February 1950, are entering the coming election with far less enthusiasm and self-assurance. The revolt inside the Labor Party can only indicate to them a signal of stormy class struggles ahead, should they be returned to the seat of government. They are well aware that British capitalism, although given another lease on life by grace of the Labor leaders, has never before been as weak nor the working class as strong. But they are not even too sure of victory. For, dissatisfied as the mass of the people are with austerity under the Labor government, they are even more fearful of a coming war.

In this connection it is important to them as someone has remarked, "whose finger is at the trigger." For, although the Labor leaders do not differ too much formally from the Tories on foreign policy and the alliance with the U.S.A., the people fear from past experience that Churchill has an itchy trigger finger.

French Get American Guns To Suppress Indo-Chinese

By Charles Hanley

The French general, Jean de Lattre de Tassigny, has come to Washington to get more American equipment for the colonialist forces he leads in Indo-China against the Republic of Viet-Nam in what the French call "the dirty war."

This six-year old war, tying down 240,000 men, one third of the French army, has cost more than $2 billion already — $71 million more than the total Marshall Plan aid to France.

What is the purpose of this war for which the American people are forced to pay? Gen. de Lattre pretends that "France had given her former colony real freedom and was now helping to maintain it at a cost of $1 billion this year and probably $1.3 billion next year." (N. Y. Herald Tribune, Sept. 19.)

If the French have given the Vietnamese real freedom, why do the latter go on fighting the French? De Lattre's claim does not square with the fact that the majority of the Indo-Chinese population sympathizes with the Viet-Minh (the liberation movement) and give active support to its army and its partisans. The presence of a large French army of intervention in Indo-China gives the lie to the propaganda that Indo-China has been freed. It is in fact being suppressed in a bloody war.

De Lattre states that the French army he heads is "helping the Indo-Chinese to defend themselves against communism." But the determined struggle put up by the Indo-Chinese masses shows that they do not appreciate this "help."

The truth is that the Viet-Minh movement is a united front of several parties opposed to imperialist domination, fighting for national independence.

Time magazine, Sept. 24, states that de Lattre has been able to win over the Indo-Chinese quisling, ex-emperor Bao-Dai, and other somewhat cynical leaders of the privileged wealthy classes; but it tacitly admits that the peasants and workers could not be "won over" to a revamped edition of French colonialism.

The French capitalists do not want to lose Indo-China. Its rubber, its rice, its cotton and its mines provide a profitable source of exploitation for French imperialism. That is what the "dirty war" is being fought for. That is what American equipment and aid is used to protect.

Time magazine compares de Lattre to Gen. MacArthur. There is some truth in this: De Lattre, like MacArthur, is a true representative of the reactionary military caste, with all its arrogance and contempt for the Asian peoples.

Like MacArthur, de Lattre introduced the use of napalm bombs against civilians in his "liberation" war against the Viet-Minh forces. He has long experience in colonial wars, having a bloody history as a military tyrant in the French colonies.

This is the "liberator" to whom the U.S. government is sending hundreds of millions of dollars of military aid to be used against the Indo-Chinese. Truman has compared the Indo-Chinese war to the war in Korea. In this he is correct. Both are wars of imperialist intervention against colonial peoples who are striving to win their independence from foreign domination.

But like the Korean war, de Lattre's attempt to suppress the Vietnamese has proved a difficult task. The determined struggle of the Viet-Minh forces has been waged against the French army equipped by the U.S. with modern arms. The resistance movement has received little if any material aid from the Soviet Union, and no aid in the form of manpower.

Yet, the French have failed to win their "dirty war." The power of the colonial revolution is stronger than de Lattre, his armies, and the forces which U.S. imperialism is throwing on the side of the French oppressors.

CANADA CCF GROUP ASKS FOR 'BREAD NOT BOMBS' --CONDEMNS KOREA WAR

The left wing of the Canadian labor movement is beginning to give political and organizational expression to the mass opposition to the Korean war, according to a report in the latest issue of **Labor Challenge.** Important steps have also been taken to mobilize the widespread opposition to the extension of hostilities to the Asian mainland and the eruption of the next world war.

This movement is spearheaded by the Canadian Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) of the Saskatchewan province, which is dominated by the left wing of the CCF.

BREAD OR BOMBS

At the opening session of the Saskatchewan legislature this spring, Premier Douglas challenged the capitalist parties by announcing that he would fight in the coming election on the basis of his speech: BREAD OR BOMBS.

This speech said in part: "I don't want to see the young men in this country fight a war merely to reimpose Chiang Kai-shek on the Chinese people or to protect the holdings of the Standard Oil Company. . . . I believe that the people of Saskatchewan want peace if it is possible; that the people of Saskatchewan do not want to send men out to die on foreign fields to bolster up discredited regimes. . . . We cannot allow the desire to stop aggression to act as a cloak to force Syngman Rhees, Chiang Kai-sheks or other sawdust caesars on people who don't want them."

OPPOSE WAR ALLIANCE

At the recently held Saskatchewan CCF convention in which 528 delegates participated, this speech of Premier Douglas was endorsed and further concretized in other resolutions, giving expression to the growing opposition to Canada's involvement in the crushing of Asian independence struggles, the growing awareness that the Atlantic Pact is an alliance for war, the mounting resistance to higher taxes, and the alarm at the moves toward the imposition of a police state on the Canadian people.

The resolution endorsing Premier Douglas' stand commended in particular that section of his BREAD OR BOMBS speech which stressed "that the danger of war should not be made an excuse for postponing social security measures." The same resolution went on to point out that "the diversion of labor and wealth from the manufacture of consumer goods to the manufacture of war machines and destructive weapons constitutes waste of energy."

FOR CHINA RECOGNITION

The convention called for the immediate recognition of "the People's Government of China and the admission of this Government's representatives into the United Nations" and recorded itself in favor of "the termination of all interference by foreign powers in Formosa."

This resolution contained a clause to the effect that it will be fatal to the CCF in Canada to "extend support to the militaristic expansionist, fear-rousing policies of a number of western powers," which have succeeded only in "earning the enmity and the ill-will of almost the entire peoples of Asia."

The convention also took a "four-square" stand against the rearmament of Germany and Japan by the bloc of western powers; against the policies "which encourage and/or permit the regrowth of fascism in Germany and Japan"; and against a separate treaty with Japan "which would worsen the already bad conditions existent between east and west."

LACK OF CLARITY

From the socialist standpoint, the position of the convention is not wholly consistent on such key issues as the role of the UN, the unqualified support of colonial revolutions, etc. For example, the resolution on the UN expresses the naive wish that this body should "return to its original intention of working for peace" and obviously leaves the way wide open for continued support of this central agency for the promotion of imperialist war.

The Korea-China resolution fails to take a clear-cut stand for the immediate withdrawal of Canadian troops from Korea, but sanctions instead the maintenance of "such bonafide UN forces as are required to preserve peace." Pacifist illusions remain strongly marked, notably in the false attitude toward the UN as an instrument of peace. The same attitude was to be found in Premier Douglas' speech at the CCF-CCYM banquet, in which he developed the line of the resolution on International Friendship, and brought forward the false conception that there can be peace without the victory of socialism.

Letters from Readers

An Allegory About A Lottery

Editor: For 25 years now, man and boy, I've listened to the radio programs ground out by the broadcasting factories, and I can count the really great ones without taking off my shoes. In "The Lottery," by Shirley Jackson, radio, after a quarter-century of stultification by its owners, gives us an insight into what a great medium of communication it could be if it were handled by people of courage and vision and an intelligent concern regarding the great ills that beset this world.

One of the greatest of these ills is dealt with in this radio play — the theme of mob psychology and its role as a bulwark of reaction. A lottery is to be held in a typical village of these times, the origin of which is so old that no one remembers the original reason for holding it. It just is the thing to do since our forefathers from time immemorial have done it. The one who draws the black slip of paper is the loser in the lottery and his punishment is being stoned to death.

There are a few dissenters, but their pleas are ignored and scorned. Among those who join the dissenters, are the ones who get stoned, but by now it is too late.

History teaches us that stoning people to death has been in the discard since biblical times. But society deals with its dissenters only in a different manner from those backward times. Today we have the Budenzes, the McCarthys, the McCarrans who use the same principles of intolerance against any who oppose them. And on the other side of the picture we have the Stalins, the Adenauers, the Gottwalds who deal with their opponents by the same old crime-stained methods.

The dissenters of today, foremost of whom are the Trotskyists, can draw much comfort from this allegorical story. In the battle for the minds of men, to release them from the fetters put upon them by long-standing and erroneous traditions, we are on the side of every dissenter of the past whose struggle against the status quo raised mankind by a head.

A. W. H.
Minneapolis

MYRA WEISS Tour Schedule

Tuesday	Oct. 2	Flint
Wednesday	3	Detroit
Thursday	4	"
Saturday	6	Chicago
Sunday	7	Milwaukee
Monday	8	Chicago
Tuesday	9	"
Wednesday	10	Chicago
Thursday	11	St. Louis
Saturday	13	Twin Cities
Sunday	14	"
Monday	15	"
Tuesday	16	"
Thursday	18	Salt Lake City
Friday	19	"
Saturday	20	"
Sunday	21	"
Tuesday	23	Seattle
Wednesday	24	"
Thursday	25	"
Friday	26	"
Saturday	27	"
Sunday	28	"
Monday	29	"
Wednesday	31	San Francisco

New York Socialist Workers Party

1951 CAMPAIGN JAMBOREE

JIMMY WRIGHT'S BAND
Square and Social Dancing

ENTERTAINMENT REFRESHMENTS

Friday, October 12, Columbus Day, 8:30 PM

Caravan Hall

110 East 59th Street Donation $1

THE MILITANT ARMY

St. Paul Literature Agent **Winifred** has been going over her records of the recent **Militant** subscription campaign. She has come up with a few figures which demonstrate how successful the campaign was from the financial as well as political point of view. First of all, she reports that during the campaign St. Paul and Minneapolis increased their **Militant** circulation over four times. At the same time, St. Paul's financial statement on literature shows a handsome balance.

"What did we do with it?" she asks. "Well, it so happened that our monthly sustaining fund to the state headquarters was due and the treasury empty. So the literature fund came to the rescue — the $50 state sustaining fund was turned over to the treasurer, from the literature funds, and the Minnesota headquarters' rent was paid. The day was saved! This was one of the best demonstrations in action of the financial worth of an active literature department. I am sure the other branches had some like results, and it certainly was a demonstration!"

Philadelphia Literature Agent **Betty** reports encouraging sales of **The Militant** at their first street meetings for Clyde Turner, Socialist Workers Party candidate for councilman. "We went back into the neighborhoods where we had previously collected signatures," she writes. "We all felt that the returns were good, and of course we will continue this work."

Minneapolis Literature Agent **Pauline** writes, "One of our **Militant** salesmen sold subscriptions to two friends of hers, but hadn't heard from either of them since they started receiving the paper. By an odd coincidence she heard from both of them one day last week, both expressing interest and pleasure in the paper. One of them commented that her husband had glanced at the paper, but thought the ideas were utopian and could never be realized. **However, he happened to read the editorial in the September 10 issue, 'Taxes and the Escalator Clause,' and that certainly rang a bell. He remarked that that was something he really believed in and that every working man knew that it is the take-home pay that must be increased in order to make both ends meet in these days of sky-rocketing prices."**

Minneapolis has begun its fall campus activity. Believing in not wasting any time getting started, **Pete, Doris,** and **Pauline** were on hand with **The Militant** while university students were registering for classes. Reception was good, they report.

Lillian Russell writes that **Oakland** sales of **The Militant** are going well and that they have been able to sell subscriptions to many buyers of single copies. Looking over her records she reports that they have been able to sell at least one sub each week in this manner.

J. G., a Seattle subscriber, wants to express his appreciation for **The Militant.** "Keep up the good work," he writes, "for we sure have the working class paper of them all."

J. G. B., a friend in **Moon Lake, Canada,** writes that he is back home after spending six weeks in the hospital. "I am sure glad to get **The Militant** again," he writes. "I have caught up on my reading. I certainly liked the July 4 number as it shed light on that important occasion. Cannon's articles on the Stalinist peace program should be printed in pamphlet form. I hope you will continue to explain events from a Marxist point of view."

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The Right to Have a Lawyer

When the Cook County grand jury concocted its "conspiracy" frameup against Harvey Clark's lawyer and the people who made it possible for him to rent an apartment in lily-white Cicero, it decided to get into the spirit of the times and drag in a "red" angle. So it included among its victims a man accused of distributing a Communist Party leaflet headed "End Mob Rule in Cicero" some three weeks after the riot.

But another aspect of the Cicero case bears an even more important relation to the current assaults being conducted against civil liberties in the name of combatting "communism." We refer to what has happened in both instances to the constitutional guarantee of the right to "assistance of counsel."

In the Smith Act trial of 11 Communist Party leaders, the Harry Bridges "perjury" case and a number of others, the defense lawyers were held in "contempt" and ordered to prison for their efforts in behalf of the defendants. Intimidation became so flagrant that the Stalinists could not secure lawyers of their own in the Smith Act trial pending in New York. As the **N.Y. Post** puts it: "Everywhere it is widespread that participation in such cases means economic and political suicide."

Now this pattern is being extended into other fields. Harvey Clark's lawyer, George Leighton, for daring to go to court with a damage suit, now faces trial, possible imprisonment, fine and disbarment. What effect can the indictments of Leighton have on other lawyers except to intimidate the great majority of them into refusing to accept cases involving Negro rights and mob violence? If continued, how can all this end in anything but a replica of Hitler's and Stalin's juridical outrages?

On the same day the Cicero indictments were issued, the American Bar Association convention heard a letter from President Truman, sanctimoniously urging lawyers to accept the defense of "persons accused of such abhorrent crimes as conspiracy to overthrow the government by force, espionage and sabotage." If that is what he really wants, then he could begin at home, by telling his Attorney General, judges and prosecutors to stop their harassing of lawyers. And if he really wants to assure the right of "adequate representation by competent counsel," he could act without delay to use the powers of his high office to quash the Cicero indictments and to punish those who were guilty of organizing the riot.

If he does not want to do these things, he should be made to by an aroused people. The Cicero case proves that the witch-hunt menaces everyone, not only radicals.

Truman's News Blackout

When Peron suppressed the newspaper **La Prensa** in Argentina, the dailies here could not find words of denunciation strong enough to express their indignation. They are loud enough when it comes to indicting the suppression of the press by the Kremlin.

But when Truman imposes a censorship decree, dealing a most crippling blow to the freedom of the press, such large dailies as the **N.Y. Daily News** announce that they are "withholding judgment," even though they add their attitude is one of "sour skepticism." The strongest protest has thus far come from such conservatives as columnist David Lawrence who correctly points that Truman's decree cuts off information not only from the public but also "completely cuts off the Congress of the United States as well as the entire press — except as the Chief Executive may permit."

By his Sept. 25 edict Truman has instructed every single department in the federal government to "classify" information in the interest of "national security." To suppress any news he chooses, a department head henceforth need only stamp it as "security information." There is not even a body to whom any such decisions may be appealed. For this, too, is left entirely "to each department head or his designated subordinate" who are empowered by the decree "to investigate promptly and carefully any alleged instance of unjustified use of security classifications."

This sweeping news censorship, beyond anything imposed in its country even in wartime, Truman cynically instructs "must not be used. . . to cover up mistakes by any official or employee of the government."

With the stench of graft and corruption that has emanated from one federal department after another, what better cover could have been provided for all the crooks and grafters than this news blackout ordered by Truman?

The destroyers of civil liberties, all the witch-hunters, have a safeguard, too. All their crimes can henceforth proceed under the cloak of "security information." Immunity has been afforded to the warmakers and the mighty military caste which may now proceed to dispose of untold billions of arms appropriations even more brazenly than they have up to now.

It is the law of the land that not even Congress has the power to abridge the freedom of the press. Truman who usurped war making powers in launching his Korean "police action," is now usurping powers which even Congress is prohibited from wielding.

A Twin Anniversary

By Fred Arens

Last September 18th The New York Times celebrated its 100th anniversary. To mark the occasion, America's foremost capitalist newspaper reprinted the front-page of its first number.

The article that aroused my interest is entitled "Fugitive Slave Riot in Lancaster Co., Pa." This is what happened according to the story: A party of Maryland slave-owners and police officials, armed with a warrant issued by the U.S. Commissioner, set out for Christiana in Lancaster Co., Pa., in order to recapture two escaped slaves.

When the Negroes were located in a house, the slave-owners and their uniformed henchmen opened fire. When the slaves promptly returned it, the party retreated. Then, at a signal from inside the house, "sixty or eighty armed blacks" emerged from the "adjacent woods and cornfields," attacked the posse and killed one man. Subsequently mass arrests were made and "a large amount of arms captured." It is interesting and inspiring to learn that a white man was among those fighting alongside the slaves. A reward of $1,000 was posted for further arrests. The article commends the Governor of Pennsylvania for upholding the "dignity of the Commonwealth" by his reprisal against the slaves.

The N. Y. Times performed a real service in reprinting this page. For this article reminds us that this year marks not only the 100th anniversary of a big-business mouthpiece, but also the continued existence of capitalism's offspring, the Jim Crow system. One hundred years ago, we had the so-called Lancaster riot — a century later, the Cicero outrage.

The basic elements in both cases, even though they occurred under different conditions and a hundred years apart, remain similar. Negroes are still persecuted in the name of "private property." Their refusal to submit brings down upon them the combined violence of the police, grand juries and courts. Those who fight with them and for them are framed-up on charges of "inciting to riot."

The Negroes in The Times article, fighting for freedom and against the certainty of savage reprisals, defended themselves courageously and as best they could against their persecutors. But they didn't have a chance. The slave owners had the open support of the capitalist state. The recent events, after 100 years, are all the more shameful.

We have a hypocritical President who preaches civil rights while his concrete actions fatten the pocketbooks and increase the power of the Dixiecrats. A large NAACP, claiming to speak on behalf of millions of Negroes and possessing the power of arousing mass action, continues to follow the timid policies of its "talented tenth" leaders and to place all its hopes in the judicial processes of the capitalist courts. A great and strong labor movement, which is being steadily attacked by profit-mad corporations and their stooges in Congress, remains under the leadership of bureaucrats who refuse to recognize that the struggle of the Negro is labor's struggle and that the violence against the Negro people is a blow against all of labor.

The workers themselves, Negro and white, must demand action on the part of their leaders. True, it is indispensable to explore to the full the possibility of using the laws of the land in promoting democracy. But this is no longer sufficient.

It is time that we recognize that the courts are class courts and primarily serve, under a capitalist system, to uphold the interests of America's sixty families. The workers themselves must demand mass action. This is the only protest that will influence those who, in their drive toward war, try to weaken and ultimately destroy the great American labor movement by keeping it divided and terrorizing the Negro people.

The nature of a correct program has been often indicated by the **Militant**. It centers around three main points: the organization of defense committees for the victims of Jim Crow, mass protests and picket-lines wherever such violence occurs, and finally the greatest possible pressure by the labor rank-and-file on their leaders to throw the full support of America's unions behind the struggle for Negro rights. Wherever this is done an important step will be taken toward keeping America democratic. Ultimately, Socialism will ensure the disappearance of such 100-year anniversaries, both of big-business newspapers and of violence against minorities.

The Purpose of the Japanese Peace Pact

By M. Stein

Two treaties were concluded in San Francisco, Sept. 8: 1. — A peace treaty between the victorious allies and defeated Japan; 2. — A bilateral "security treaty" between the U.S. and Japan. This event may well go down in history under a chapter headed: Japan gains and loses sovereignty within five hours.

At 11:54 A.M. the peace treaty was consummated stating that the allies "recognize that Japan as a sovereign nation possesses the inherent right of individual or collective self-defense." Toward the evening of the same day another treaty was signed, this time between Dean Acheson and Shigeru Yoshida, Japanese Prime Minister. In this pact "sovereign" Japan handed over its sovereignty for safekeeping to the U.S.

ACHESON-YOSHIDA PACT

In the Acheson-Yoshida agreement "Japan grants, and the U.S.A. accepts the right . . . to dispose United States land, air and sea forces in and about Japan." And to make sure that no one else can horn in on this deal, it says further that "Japan will not grant, without the prior consent of the U.S.A., any bases or any rights, powers or authority whatsoever, in or relation to bases or the right of garrison or of maneuver, or transit of ground, air and naval forces to any third power."

This exclusive right acquired by the U.S. to use Japan as a military base for an indefinite period of time is not intended merely to give "defenseless" Japan protection against foreign invasion, but as the treaty states, also to put down large-scale internal riots and disturbances in Japan. . ."

A SUPERFICIAL CHANGE

It is obvious from this that the much ballyhooed peace conference has changed the Japanese status only superficially. Japan remains essentially an occupied country with the occupation forces controlling both its external policies and its internal regime.

The question then presents itself, why must Japan continue to be an American military base, six years after the bloody Second World War? Isn't it time for the U.S. to pull out of there?

If U.S. policy makers fear the former "enemy," as some commentators claim, then why does the peace treaty permit Japan to raise an unlimited army? If it is permitted and even insisted upon that Japan raise an army — an indication that there is no "fear" of Japan, that "bygones are bygones" — then why the provision to maintain huge American forces in Japan to be used not only externally but also internally? This contradiction is resolved once it is realized that not only has Japan lost World War II. It has been stripped of its empire and its might. But, although the allied powers gained a military victory, they too lost Asia.

Among the signatories to the peace treaty are the four powers, in addition to Japan, who have come to grief in the Far East within less than a decade.

POWERS LOSE ASIA

The British empire had to give up the brightest jewel of its imperial crown, India. The Dutch were compelled to loosen their grip on Indonesia. The French have all but lost Indo-China. The United States lost China.

Japan was defeated in military combat, but the other powers lost Asia as a consequence of the colonial revolution which is far from ended.

The San Francisco conference was thus not a simple gathering of victorious nations for the signing of a pact with the defeated nations, but a gathering of defeated nations on both sides, to devise ways and means to retrieve their losses. The American monopolists are masterminding the scheme whereby Japan could raise an army under Pentagon direction, to help in the reconquest of the Asian mainland for Wall Street's benefit. This is the real meaning of the two treaties. This is the meaning of the sovereignty granted and taken away.

STALINISTS DISTORT FACTS

When the Stalinist demagogues say that the treaty revives the menace of Japanese imperialism, they remain true to form. They squeeze facts into the distorted mold of their momentary purpose. They seek to capitalize on the chauvinist hatred of Japan as a ration, which they helped foster in World War II. Japanese imperialism has been rendered impotent. And it is doubtful if it can be revived as any sort of aggressive force except in a manner similar to the revival of German imperialism following World War I. That is, through a movement such as the Nazis led which would in the first instance have to throw out the American occupiers and tear up the San Francisco treaty.

The Japanese monopolists will, to be sure, seek to sponsor such a movement. But they will face the Japanese masses who were the victims of their previous drive for imperialist mastery. Even more important, the Japanese imperialists will have to contend with the powerful Japanese working class, which no doubt is sympathetic to and is drawn to the Chinese revolution now in process.

The Japanese Peace Treaty has been widely proclaimed by Republicans and Democrats alike as an example of American leadership in the world. It is quite true that the treaty from beginning to end has prominently stamped on it, "Made in Washington." But this American leadership has been acquired not by superior wisdom and certainly not because American imperialism is loved by the peoples of the world. Not at all. This leadership has been acquired by default.

None of the old empires are contesting this leadership for the simple reason that they have already exhausted themselves in endless wars against the colonial peoples and among themselves. They are now perfectly willing to let the U.S. come forward and take up where they left off. The U.S. is the only remaining capitalist power insane enough to believe that it can turn the clock of history backwards and regain the power and old glory of imperial rule.

The Japanese treaty is far from being any help in this mad gamble. On the contrary, it creates obstacles.

Let us mention some of them:

1. The Japanese are expected to raise an army to help the U.S. in a new attempt to conquer China. Yet the same Yoshida who signed the treaty declared prior to the San Francisco conference that this is impossible both economically and politically. Here are his words:

"It is financially impossible: one single torpedo-boat would torpedo the Japanese finances. It is politically impossible: The Australians, the Filipinos, and others could not agree to it, and we have no desire to set their nerves uselessly on edge. As for the Japanese themselves, there is not a family in the country that is not suffering to this day from the results of defeat. Everywhere are ruins, everywhere mourners. I cannot go to those families and say, 'Your son is to be a soldier again.'"

2. Even the Japanese politicians are appalled by the fact that the treaty grants Japan no real sovereignty. A N. Y. Times correspondent cabled from Tokyo on Sept. 15, one week after the San Francisco treaty, "The biggest (shock) is probably the provision of the defense pact which stated that American troops garrisoning Japan as a security force could at the request of the Japanese government, act as an internal police."

3. The peoples of Asia are naturally drawn together by their hostility toward the white man's oppressive rule, and China and Japan are in addition drawn together by economic compulsion. These two nations complement one another economically. China is a vast country, rich in natural resources, with a population of one half billion. But it is largely agricultural.

THE REAL PERSPECTIVE

Japan, on the other hand, with a population of some 85 million, occupies an area smaller than California. It has been the workshop of Asia; but it lacks natural resources. It desperately needs raw materials and a market. It must trade with China. The U.S. has made it amply clear that it will not permit such a course.

By all its actions, U.S. imperialism is in sharp conflict with the interests of the Asian peoples, Japan included. U.S. military, political and economic intervention are bound to feed the fires of internal crisis and revolution in Japan.

Brass Hat in the Ring for 1952

EISENHOWER

Presidential aspirants in both capitalist parties are having the Eisenhower jitters — and with good cause. The brass hat is sure to be a strong contender, after the sustained buildup he has received for 10 years, and it now appears quite certain that he will accept the Republican nomination.

That is good news for the Dewey wing of the Republican Party, which has been leading the pro-Eisenhower boom, and not so good for Taft, MacArthur and the other GOP hopefuls. The word now is that as soon as Eisenhower feels the Republican nomination is in the bag, he will make a public statement clearing up the "mystery" of his political sympathies and accepting the Republican "draft."

Naive people may wonder how come all this arises now when the nominating convention, which presumably selects the candidate, will not take place for another nine months. And this is the explanation:

"ONLY HOPE"

Rep. Hugh Scott (R, Pa.), former GOP National Chairman and Dewey man, returned recently with a report of a visit to Eisenhower in France. He told the general that many people think "the only hope for the country" lies in his accepting the Republican nomination. He also told him, according to the well-informed Joseph C. Harsch in the Sept. 14 **Christian Science Monitor**, that these people "were acting without thought of patronage or reward on the basis of honorable and patriotic idealism, but had found themselves up against 'the boys down in the engine room,' who, he asserted, are going about offering postmasterships and federal judgeships to all and sundry on behalf of Senator Robert A. Taft."

Scott also informed Eisenhower "that this tactic of the Eisenhower group's opponents has been making it very difficult for them because while most Republicans wanted General Eisenhower, it's harder when dealing with the professional politicians, who want some indication of the general's plans, of his receptibility, even though they would not require definite promises."

WANT ASSURANCE

Furthermore, Scott told him "that the persons who are working to get him the nomination have a right to expect something in return and that the something ought to be at least an assurance that the rug won't be pulled out from under their activities by any statements from overseas."

Translating this into plain English, Dewey, Scott and the other honorable and patriotic idealists who for some reason don't want to be called professional politicians complained to Eisenhower that they could not compete with the Taft forces' offers of patronage unless Eisenhower gave them "something" to work with — not definite promises of patronage, you understand, but at least something the boys down in the engine room could sink their teeth into.

IMPORTANT JOB

Eisenhower's answer, according to Harsch, was "that he felt himself engaged in a terribly important job (in Europe) which he had accepted at considerable personal risk and sacrifice. He said that if Mr. Scott's friends back home think that their course is worth pursuing, he thought they might also be willing to assume whatever risks are incidental to the cause they believe in."

To people untrained in the subtleties of the doubletalk engaged in by capitalist politicians, this might look like an evasion. But Scott, being an idealist himself, understood what was being said. "I'll buy that," he answered, saying "he assumed he was therefore to continue doing what he had been doing for a long time, i.e. to work for an Eisenhower nomination."

The general had nothing to say to that, which Scott considered to be an act of "not entering a demurrer." This was confirmed when Eisenhower "referred Mr. Scott to an article, on the desk at the time, in which it was stated that the general would of course accept the nomination if the delegates to the Republican convention had been lined up beforehand on his behalf."

It is to be hoped that the honorable and patriotic idealists, now that they have been given the green light, will walk and not scramble to the line which is being formed in front of the GOP trough.

Big Obstacles to Proposed Dixiegop Presidential Ticket

One of the opening moves in the 1952 election campaign was the establishment of the Committee to Explore Political Realignment, with the aim of openly allying the Republicans and Southern Democrats in the presidential race.

This is the brain child of Karl E. Mundt (R, S.D.), who won a seat in the Senate solely on his merits as an outstanding witch-hunter in the House. Under his inspiration 100 capitalist politicians of both parties from both the North and South (the Northerners were chiefly ex-officeholders, the Southerners chiefly Dixiecrats) met in Washington recently and set up the committee to work for the proposed electoral coalition.

STATES RIGHTS

Among the courses of action they are studying — assuming they get the necessary support for any of them — are: the nomination of a joint presidential slate; the adoption by the GOP of a "states' rights" program, and the offer of a number of important cabinet posts to the South; or some maneuvers whereby enough Southern states would nominate electors opposed to the Democratic candidate so that the election would be thrown into the House of Representatives.

Mundt's argument is that there has been an "informal, unorganized and intermittent alliance" between the Republicans and Southern Democrats in Congress anyhow, and that this alliance has been able to call the tune in Washington on many important issues — so why not make the thing formal and get control of the White House at the same time?

CIVIL RIGHTS

Of course, Mundt adds, this would mean that the Republicans would have to junk the customary "civil rights" plank in their platform, but he thinks it would be worth it. (He evidently believes most Negroes and other supporters of the civil rights program don't vote GOP anyhow; and besides he knows that there is not much likelihood of either capitalist party enacting serious civil rights laws.)

Mundt's political realignment plan is not likely to get very far.

In the first place, Northern Republicans generally are not very keen for the idea. Gov. Warren of California has already called it a "disgrace." They are willing enough to have an informal alliance in Congress, but they don't want to be saddled with the Southern Democrats as their open partners because that would mean the loss of many votes, not only among Negroes and workers but also among the middle class, where strong sentiment for civil rights exists.

This might mean the loss of more electoral votes in the North than could be gained in the South; and even if that were not so, the machine politicians in the big industrial states would be opposed to risking loss of the states they control in exchange for the mere possibility of winning the presidency.

BALANCE OF POWER

And in the second place, many or most of the Southern Democrats (not be confused with the Dixiecrats, who are a minority in the South) don't go for Mundt's proposal either. They now hold the balance of power in Washington by virtue of their seniority positions within the ruling party, and while they can't get everything they want, they can prevent the passage of any laws they dislike. Under present conditions it would be hard for them to find a better setup.

One other aspect of this development deserves some comment. On scores of occasions the liberals associated with Americans for Democratic Action have deplored the "anarchy" of the present party system and urged that all the conservatives should get together in a single party and all the liberals should get together in a party of their own, so that the voters would have the choices available from a "real two-party system."

THE LIBERALS

Strangely enough, none of these liberals has said anything yet about Mundt's proposal, either for or against, although it fits in with their own previous suggestions. Or maybe it is not so strange after all. Maybe they were just indulging in cheap talk; maybe they don't really want the Southern Democrats to leave their party at all; maybe they prefer maintaining their party coalition with the lynchocrats, and staying in government positions of power, to breaking with them and losing those positions. Anyhow, that is how it looks.

And the name for that policy is "the end justifies the means" — which the ADA theoreticians always denounce and deplore when they attribute it to the Marxists.

Chicago Students To Hear Weiss Debate on Korea

CHICAGO, Sept. 25 — Two big meetings are in the offing for Myra Tanner Weiss when she hits Chicago next week.

The anti-war meeting on the evening of Oct. 6 promises to be the most successful socialist demonstration that this city has seen for several years. An encouraging advance sale of tickets indicates a full attendance.

Another big event during the tour will be a debate at Roosevelt College on Oct. 10, 7:30 P.M. Myra Tanner Weiss' opponent will be Abba P. Lerner, prominent Keynesian economist. The subject debated will be "Who is the Aggressor in the Korean War?"

A full-scale mobilization is being planned for Sunday, Sept. 30, to visit all friends and subscribers to The Militant in order to build up the advance sale of tickets for the anti-war rally.

All **Militant** readers who have not yet purchased their tickets are urged to call the SWP headquarters, HA 7-0403. Phone orders will be delivered.

Jim Kiger, Flint Unionist, Dead

FLINT — The local branch of the Socialist Workers Party mourns the death of James C. Kiger. Jim died of cancer on Sept. 5 at the age of 49. Former leader of the sitdown strike, board member and militant unionist of Chevrolet Local 659, he leaves an honorable record that will not soon be forgotten. He was not always a member of the SWP but he was for many years an ardent and active sympathizer.

Cleveland
SWP Branch
announces
A Series of Eight Lectures
"The Truth About the First American Revolution, 1776"
Sunday Evenings - 7:30 PM
October 7 through Nov. 28
10609 Superior Avenue

The Newark Friday Night
Socialist Forum
announces the first in a series of weekly lectures
The Origin of Man and His Future
Speaker:
Evelyn Atwood
Friday, Oct. 5 — 8:30 PM
at 423 Springfield Avenue
Admission Free

Twin Cities
Myra Tanner Weiss
Tour
"A Socialist Program for the United States"
Friday, Oct. 12 - 8:00 PM
10 S. 4th St., Minneapolis
Donation 25c

THE MILITANT

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On Tour for Socialism

By Myra Tanner Weiss

The Buffalo meeting was a very inspiring one. The headquarters hall was crowded with 67 people including about 12 students from the campus where the branch had several leaflet distributions.

After the meeting, several of these students told me about the growing sentiment against the witch-hunt on the campus. I am sure they will find a way to give it organized expression. The youth should be the first to rebel for they will be the first victims of Wall Street's war plans. And it's hard to believe that American youth will permit themselves to be easily intimidated by government thought-control.

The best part of the Buffalo meeting for me was the announcement of plans to enter a socialist slate in the next city elections. Our comrades will put up as good a fight in the electoral field as they have in the economic struggles of the workers in Buffalo.

We had a well organized press conference in party headquarters. Invitations were sent to the Buffalo daily newspapers, and two stenographers were present to record the interview. Two newspapers were represented, one of which sent its news analyst instead of the usual reporter from the city desk.

The first comment was that I didn't look like a "labor leader." Not knowing how "labor leaders" are supposed to look, I couldn't tell if this was intended as an insult or compliment, so I ignored the remark. The interview concluded with one of the reporters expressing regret that he couldn't stay and debate the question of the Korean war with me. I regretted it too!

The articles printed in the Buffalo press were headed "WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS FROM KOREA URGED" and "U. S. INTERFERENCE IN KOREA SCORED." The latter article included the announcement of our presidential slate for '52.

The meeting in Cleveland was held in our new headquarters. The comrades had obviously worked hard to complete its decoration in time for the meeting. New curtains, a new paint job, a beautiful display of our literature made this well-attended meeting a big success. We can look forward to some real progress in our work in this city.

My second radio interview on the tour was held in Cleveland. However, this time, I had no conflict with my interviewer. Jean Simon, Cleveland correspondent for **The Militant**, asked the questions, so there was no trouble talking about socialism. To be interviewed over the air by a good friend of mine was a unique experience and of course a very pleasant one.

In addition to radio time obtained, the leading Negro weekly in Ohio, **The Cleveland Call and Post**, published our press release in full. These "breaks," of course, are made; they don't just "happen."

Labor Chiefs Expose ECA

By Fred Hart

The Marshall Plan has brought no benefits whatever to the working people of Europe. It has operated exclusively for the benefit of the rich. "The rich grow richer, the poor poorer." The European industrialists have been able by the operation of the Economic Cooperation Administration to reestablish the "iniquitous cartels, skimming off all the fat and some exporting it and hiding it."

The first of these statements was made by Jacob Potofsky, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, CIO; the second by Charles MacGowan, President of the Boilermakers and Iron Shipbuilders Union and AFL vice-president.

Both Potofsky and MacGowan made these charges upon returning from extensive trips abroad.

"The billions of dollars we are sending abroad," said Potofsky, "must seep down to the workers and their families, to increase their standard of living and thus take them out of poverty and inertia that come from a low wage scale."

But instead of "seeping down," Potofsky complained, "our money has been used primarily to strengthen the governments in power and the industrialists. The rich grow richer, the poor poorer. European industry has retained its time honored theory of unbelievably high profits and low wages. Labor has not had the benefits of improved conditions since the end of the war." (**The Advance**, Oct. 1).

Speaking at the annual AFL conference in San Francisco, MacGowan said that "the Marshall Plan had been accepted with the understanding that as production increased the working people 'participate in the fruits' but instead the industrialists had 'reestablished the iniquitous cartels, skimming off all the fat and some exporting and hiding it.'" (N.Y. Times, Sept. 22.)

Both MacGowan and Potofsky also complained that the ECA missions, each with "labor advisers" attached to them, simply ignore these "advisers." They are "not consulted" and "unilateral decisions" are made, objected MacGowan. More cautiously, Potofsky pleaded that "organized labor must have greater voice in determining the foreign and domestic policies of their own countries."

Potofsky and MacGowan rank high among the labor salesmen of the Marshall Plan. They touted it from its inception and they still remain in favor of it today, despite their own annihilating conclusions.

There was nothing progressive about the Marshall Plan, later dubbed the ECA. It was from the first designed to subsidize the European industrialists and prop up bankrupt European capitalism as the indispensable step toward European rearmament.

The claim that the Marshall Plan was intended to improve the living standards of the European workers was a deliberate lie. AFL and CIO spokesmen, like MacGowan and Potofsky, were among the most zealous in spreading this lie. Today, they are compelled to admit what **The Militant** has contended from the beginning: The Marshall Plan was never intended to improve the living standards of the European workers. Its sole purpose was to shore up the tottering capitalist governments and bankrupt capitalist exploiters; to convert Europe into a military bastion in preparation for an imperialist assault on the Soviet Union and to that end to provide the means for housebreaking or crushing the militant European labor movement.

American workers have nothing to gain and everything to lose by supporting such schemes.

"Secret" Stolen Billions

By Tom Conlan

Under the cover of "national emergency" and "rearming for defense," Big Business is now raiding the public treasury on a scale that surpasses anything on record. Involved are tens of billions of dollars. In these thefts two main devices are being employed. The first is "tax amortization"; the second, a special type of contractual agreement which the various branches of the armed services are authorized by law to make with the industrial trusts.

"Tax amortization" is a slick scheme whereby the big corporations may evade paying taxes altogether. Here is how it works. A corporation files notice that it proposes to construct and equip such and such a plant and then gets it certified as "vital for defense." Thereupon it is issued special certificates enabling it to deduct from its taxes the full cost of such a plant in five yearly installments. The plant thus costs the corporation exactly nothing. The total of such "amortized" plants already amounts to almost 10 billion dollars.

In addition to these whopping sums, the armed forces are empowered to turn over to any corporation they please, enormous amounts of equipment without the payment of a single penny. That's device number two.

These provisions are kept highly secret because the material concerned has been labelled as "classified." If we are able to peek behind this secret curtain, it is because a corner of it was gingerly lifted by Sen. Douglas of Illinois in the course of the Senate debate over the $61 billion arms appropriation bill.

Arguing — in vain — for a "10 percent cut" in arms expenditures, Douglas cited some "total figures" relating to the expenditures of a single branch of the armed services, the Air Force which, he asserted, make it "quite apparent that the Air Force is turning over enormous amounts of equipment to certain industrial concerns."

The names of these concerns were not mentioned by the Senator. That, you see, is a "military secret." But he did read into the **Congressional Record** of Sept. 13 some of the sums involved.

"Here is one company," continued Douglas, "which is to have turned over to it $215,980,000 worth of equipment, though the same company has already received $126,741,000 of accelerated tax amortization certificates. Another company is going to get $146,450,000 worth of equipment, although it is also receiving, in addition, $76,079,000 in tax amortization. There is a third company, which has at present no tax amortization, but which is getting $146,000,000 worth of equipment. If we combine those three figures, we find, very roughly, that they total $507,000,000 worth of equipment which is being turned over to three industrial giants, whose resources, in their own right, are already enormous, and who are getting well over $200,000,000 of tax amortization."

Three-quarters of a billion to three corporations on a single item in the arms bill relating to the Air Force — that surely does give a "very rough" idea!

But listen to the Senator:

"In addition to that, there is another company which is to get $59,000,000 worth of equipment; another company, $50,000,000 worth of equipment; still another company $34,440,000 worth of equipment; another company $17,000,000 worth of equipment; another, $6,000,000 worth of equipment; still another, $4,900,000 worth of equipment; another company, $1,475,000." They are all getting their share of the swag.

The Senator has checked the records and has found "that with one exception, all of these firms are also getting substantial sums of tax amortization."

What proportion of the total $61 billion arms appropriation has been earmarked for similar free gifts to the biggest corporations, the public is not permitted to know. But Sen. Douglas has unwittingly disclosed that "truly enormous" sums are involved here. And all of these "amortized" and "give away" billions come out of the taxes which are being extorted from the lowest income groups!

These big-time thieves, who already own the lion's share of this country's wealth and resources, are using the tax and arms program to pocket the remainder.

Chicago SWP Calls for Mass Pressure on Cicero

By Marvel Scholl

CHICAGO, Sept. 25 — The week that has passed since the Cook County grand jury handed down its infamous "conspiracy" indictments in the Cicero riot case has been marked by mass indignation and growing demands for federal action to stop the frameups and punish the real instigators of the riot.

Chicago Regional CIO director Michael Mann sent a telegram to Truman demanding federal grand jury action.

The Independent Voters of Illinois, state affiliate of Americans for Democratic Action, is circulating a petition demanding similar action.

Ralph Helstein, president of the CIO United Packinghouse Workers, issued a protest denouncing the grand jury for having "condoned and even compounded the offense of the vandals and bigots."

The Chicago Defender, Negro paper, urged federal grand jury action and the nolle prossing of the indictments.

OFFICIALS ADAMANT

Yesterday a delegation went to see State's Attorney Boyle (of Moretti case infamy) about the case. They were told that he does not intend to appoint a special prosecutor in the case, nor to quash the indictments against the five.

In arraigning NAACP Attorney George C. Leighton last week, Criminal Court Judge Thomas Kluczynski pleaded for sobriety. He said, "Gentlemen, let us try this case in court, in the name of law and order." He warned that aroused public opinion might make it impossible to try the case in a Cook County court.

The position taken by the judge was so preposterous that even the **Chicago Daily News** had to write:

"In our opinion, the judge would do better to take a less respectful view of the action of the grand jury and its legal counsel, the state's attorney. As the presiding judge, he is responsible for the conduct of justice, and we do not believe he is bound to sit solemnly through a farce."

MASS PRESSURE NEEDED

But so far no action has been organized to mobilize the kind of mass pressure that is needed to make the authorities and the grand jury stop their frameups.

The local branch of the National Associaton for the Advancement of Colored People, whose attorney Leighton was among those indicted, has announced that it intends to defend only its own attorney. (The local chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union has offered free legal service to the five who were indicted.)

People who have gone to the NAACP office to offer help have been told: "Wire the president demanding federal grand jury action and contribute money to the NAACP."

Such a program is inadequate. The only language Boyle and his prototypes understand is mass pressure. The Chicago Branch of the Socialist Workers Party is the only organization in this area which is advocating militant action. It is urging all the interested groups to take action along the following lines:

Organize a mass protest picket line around the county building.

Demand that the union officials take the initiative in mobilizing the support of the labor movement in defense of Negro rights.

Organize a broadly representative defense committee to support the victims of the grand jury.

For a Socialist Future Support The Candidates Of the SWP

Still No Justice

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Clark, whose apartment was wrecked by a racist mob in an anti-Negro riot in Cicero last July, got a lawyer to take their case to court. Now their lawyer has been indicted on "conspiracy" charges, while all of the known members of the mob have been set free.

WRIGHT CORP. WORKERS STRIKE FOR WAGE HIKE

WOODRIDGE, N. J., Sept. 26 — At 12 o'clock midnight, 10,000 workers of the Wright Aeronautical Corp. walked off their jobs and went on strike for higher wages and better working conditions. This was in accord with a unanimous decision reached by the membership of Amalgamated Local 669, UAW-CIO, at its last meeting on Sunday, Sept. 23.

The central demand of the Union is for a 15c. across-the-board wage increase. In addition the union demands 15% night bonus, double time for Saturday and over 40 hours, and triple time for Sunday. Also increased pensions, hospitalization and vacation pay.

The only offer made by the Company was presented as a "final" offer of approximately six cents, which the union rejected. The company offer on the fringe demands amounted to taking away what had already been won by the union last year.

WORKERS SOLID

The company has been bombarding the local newspapers with large paid advertisements and has bought time on the radio, making its pitch to the housewives. It has also kept up a steady pressure campaign of letter writing to the workers. To no avail. The workers are out solid and their militancy is something to behold. The solidarity is complete.

The workers on the picket lines say they will stay out until Christmas if necessary to bring the company to terms. But if militancy and solidarity are any indication of victory, the strike will be won in a matter of weeks.

Detroit Walkout Wins a Victory

DETROIT, Sept. 27 — Prompt and effective strike action by the membership of Briggs UAW-CIO Local 742 last Tuesday forced the company to immediately reinstate Shop Chairman Posey.

Posey had been fired after a heated exchange with a management representative during negotiations. When Posey objected to management calling shop committee members "racketeers" he was discharged.

When this news reached the workers they walked out and made clear that they would not return to work until the committeeman was reinstated. The same afternoon the company agreed to reinstate Posey after a hurry-up meeting.

The immediate strike action of Local 742 members stands in sharp contrast to the bellycrawling policy imposed upon Dodge Local 3 by their local president and the International union when their shop committee chairman was fired some weeks ago. A strike was prevented, and the committee chairman is still out.

Millions in U.S. Live in Poverty Survey Reveals

It is a lie that there is no poverty in America. There is poverty everywhere in this land.

Over half the city families in this richest of all countries have incomes below what it takes to maintain a "modest but adequate" standard of living. That is a fact shown by the Department of Labor's monthly review which this month published the results of a 34-city survey of the annual budget required to live decently.

The survey showed that to secure the necessities of life a family in these 34 cities would have to have an income averaging $3,693 annually.

Half the families in the U.S. have incomes of less than $2,750 a year. (U.S. Dept. of Commerce.)

Thus, over half the families in this country do not have incomes which the Labor Department says are needed for a "modest" living standard.

These figures are based upon prices of last October. Today the ability of American families to buy food, clothing and shelter is even less, as a result of inflation and the failure of wages to keep abreast of living costs.

Nor did the statistics take into account the big cuts in take-home pay made by taxes on low incomes.

NOT AN EXAGGERATION

Ten and a half million families in this country, one quarter of the people, get less than $2,000 a year. These families live on $1,693 less than is required for an "adequate" budget. They are ill-fed, ill-clothed and ill-housed. They have no money for medical care; they cannot afford the recreation which the Dept. of Labor says is "in accordance with current American standards."

These figures are not an exaggeration of the true situation. They are in fact an understatement. Income statistics of the government are arrived at by striking an average which includes the highest individual incomes as well as the lowest. If an average were struck on figures which included only the lower two-thirds of the population's income groups, a truer picture of how the masses of people live would result.

While it is true that actual starvation is a rare thing in America, it is also true that the highly touted American standard of living is not all it's cracked up to be. And it is far from what it could be.

The drastic cuts in living standards which will be the result of the government's huge militarization program will hit millions of Americans who already lead a hand-to-mouth existence.

USE WAR BILLIONS

If the $59 billions now appropriated for war production were used to raise the income level of the ten million families who live on less than $2,000 a year, all these families could be given incomes which come close to the standards set by the Dept. of Labor. Each of these families could be given an extra $1500 a year.

Breitman Seeks Special Session To Lower Rents

NEWARK, Sept. 25 — George Breitman, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Assembly from Essex County, yesterday demanded that Governor Driscoll immediately convene a special session of the State Legislature to roll back all rents in the state to their August 1 level.

The SWP candidate said such action was needed without delay "to give relief and protection to the hundreds of thousands of families whose rents have been raised in this state during the last month by unscrupulous landlords and their tools in the so-called Office of Rent Stabilization."

The flood of rent increase orders being granted by the ORS, he said, proves that both capitalist parties are "friends of the landlords and foes of the tenants." He urged tenants to organize to rescind the rent increases and to drive the political agents of the landlords out of office.

Capacity Audience Hears M. Weiss Speak at Buffalo

BUFFALO, Sept. 22 — Myra Tanner Weiss spoke to a capacity audience at the headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party in Buffalo last night. Workers from auto, steel and electric jammed the hall at 629 Main St., eager to hear the party's viewpoint on the problems facing the American working class today. A large number of these workers were Negroes, drawn from the plants of the Buffalo area, attracted by the program and past activities of the party. Extremely heartening was the large and enthusiastic turnout of university students.

During the week preceeding the meeting, the branch carried on an intense campaign of preparation — mailing announcements, distributing leaflets, and visiting contacts in their homes after work in the evenings.

A press conference was held the day before the meeting, to which both the leading capitalist newspapers, the **Buffalo Evening News** and the **Courier-Express**, sent representatives. Both the substance of the conference and the meeting itself were given space in these papers, indicating the importance the capitalist press concedes to the Socialist Workers Party here in Buffalo.

Mrs. Weiss inspired her audience as she painted in broad strokes the gigantic scope and vitality of the unfolding Asian revolution. She explained the profound consequences of this turbulent movement of the masses of Asia, and its interconnection with World War III. Her prophesy of the coming American revolution, as the crowning achievement of the struggles of the working class, filled her listeners with the greatest optimism. She appealed to the working people of America to join in the struggle to free humanity and establish a socialist society of peace and plenty.

Samuel Ballan, chairman of the Buffalo branch of the Socialist Workers Party, also spoke at the meeting. He was quoted by the press as saying that this meeting was the opening gun in the '52 election campaign, where the party will engage in the national campaign, running Farrell Dobbs and Grace Carlson for President and Vice-President, and where the Buffalo branch will, for the first time, put up a full slate of local candidates.

West Coast School Has Another Good Session

By Daniel Roberts

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 14 — The West Coast Vacation School, an annual institution sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party, concluded its fifth successful term last Sunday.

Party members and friends from Los Angeles, the San Francisco Bay Area and Seattle came together at the Workmen's Circle Camp near Los Angeles for eight days of Marxist education and recreation.

The comradeship was warm, the food was pronounced the best in the school's history, and the educational program — the main feature — was satisfactory to all.

REVOLUTIONARY HISTORY

There were two morning classes. One consisted of a series of lectures given by me on the history of the first American revolution. These were designed to show how closely the events of 1765-1781 resembled other great revolutions and to illustrate many of the Marxist teachings about social change from these American revolutionary events.

Comrade Edmund of Los Angeles conducted the other morning class, dealing with the history of Mexico, which he related to an examination of the role of American imperialism in Latin-America and the growing resistance of the Latin-American peoples to Wall Street rule.

Mexican history served likewise as background for a rich discussion led by Comrade Ray on the problem of the Mexican minority in the U.S. today.

STUDY OF CAPITAL

Karl Marx's **Capital** was the subject of discussion in the afternoon sessions. This was a class composed of workers and students already engaged in the study of **Capital**, and it concerned itself with certain key problems of Marx's economic teachings.

The serious study of **Capital** has been going on in all West Coast branches of the SWP since Myra Tanner Weiss initiated such a class in Los Angeles three years ago. The discussions at the camp this year showed that great progress has been made in this field. However, it was agreed that the educational program of the school still has one deficiency — the lack of a more elementary course in Marxism for those who want to undertake a more modest program of study.

The evening programs were built around individual lectures and discussions. These included: Problems of the Science of Psychology, led by Dan Dreiser; Women and the Chinese Revolution, by Frances Conway; The National Question, by Frank Powers; The Negro Struggle, by Richard Kirk.

CLASS FOR CHILDREN

The children also had an educational program. They held their own class in the early afternoon. There they took assignments which consisted in posing to any and all adults such questions as these: "What is the state?" "What is a depression?" "How did language and writing come into being?" "Are all wars bad?" They reported back to their class with the answers they got, indicating also which adult was able to answer in the clearest manner without using long words.

The education program was balanced by ample recreation. There was swimming every day, campfires, singing and games in the evening. A grand social evening, featuring skits, songs and dancing, was held the last night.

A windup banquet was held Sunday afternoon. The achievements and highlights of the previous week were reviewed, and Murry Weiss was welcomed back to the West Coast.

DETROIT KILLER-COP SHOOTS DOWN TEEN-AGER

By Mary Baker

DETROIT, Sept. 25 — Another teen-age lad has been killed by a trigger-happy policeman. And once again the cop who committed the killing has been absolved by a jury.

On the evening of Aug. 27, 15-year-old Byron Paxton, adopted son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson R. Paxton, was driving around in Highland Park with a girl friend when he had a minor accident with a parked car. Having neither driver's license nor ownership registration, Byron fled instead of reporting the accident. Police found him parked in an alley and started questioning him. Frightened, Byron jumped a fence when Police Sgt. Melville Carter turned his back. The boy had started to run through a back yard when the policeman shot him.

The coroner's jury, which took 75 minutes and only one ballot to clear the cop, was composed of a preacher, two housewives, a retired banker, a Wayne University professor and a retired police inspector. The verdict it gave was:

"We find that the firing of a shot by Sgt. Carter was a matter of judgment in a tense moment.

"But that with three officers present at the scene of the apprehension, further steps at pursuit would have been appropriate."

The Rev. W. Sperry, who was foreman of the jury, hypocritically denied that any note of censure was contained in the verdict.

"I would say it is a note of caution to police, rather than censure, in the hasty use of firearms," he said.

Never the less, Highland Park Police Chief Dewey Schultz, appearing as the final witness, had said he thought Carter "used good judgment" in firing the shot.

Byron's father said to reporters: "I can't conceive of a good policeman acting as Sgt. Carter did."

At the Paxton home, the boy's mother fought off tears as she said: "I'm very much disgusted with the way it went. I think they should take Carter off the force."